

OREGON BOTANICAL ARTISTS

November 10, 2018 Bi-annual Meeting at Mary McCarty's Community Center, Milwaukie, Oregon

Attending: Aislinn Adams, Kate Blairstone, Jane Levy Campbell, Margot Cole, Alice Debo, Dorota Haber-Lehigh, Alice Hill, Suzanne Jones, Connie Kobelnzer-Ratti, Dorothy Krogh, Tina Lange, Marilyn Lindberg, Kristine Mackessy, Patty McMahan, Kip Nordstrom, Janet Parker, Carol Putnam, Laura Shea, Janene Walkky

11:00 Meeting began

Announcements:

Janet has a contact who is a former horticulturist at Lan Su. Janet will try to arrange for her to give a presentation at one of our meetings.

Kip reminded us that her daughter has a work connection with Sotheby's real estate for a possible show opportunity. They have Thursday night openings. We could also sell cards and possibly prints.

Janet mentioned a possible show opportunity at the Rose Schnitzer Manor, via a connection with Oregon Society of Artists. There is no commission. The time available is March – April, which would overlap with our Cannon Beach Art Association show.

Tina has mister pens available for sale, and can order more.

Dorota shared her experience at the ASBA (American Society of Botanical Artists) October conference in St. Louis, Missouri. She attended several workshops and demos, and also gave a report on our Oregon group. Attendees seemed very impressed with our group engagement in projects such as the sketchbook exchange, tote bags and illustrated letters, as well as our ability to attract new and younger members. It was mentioned that part of our advantage is that we are a Circle, not a Chapter, of ASBA. Chapter members are required to pay the higher fees to join ASBA. Circle members do not have to join ASBA, and the lower fees are more attractive to younger and emerging artists. Dorota also submitted work to the non-juried small works exhibit at the conference, and discussed how this portion of the show was more varied in style and had fewer restrictions than the juried exhibit. More information about ASBA is available on their website at <http://asba-art.org>. Their 2019 conference will be held in Pittsburgh, and the 2020 one will be in Pasadena.

Updates from OBA Officers:

Treasurer's Report: Janene reported on our yearly income and expenses. Most of our expenses were related to the Nature Journaling workshop, the facility fee for our May bi-annual meeting at Gaiety Hollow, printing fees for notecards and tote bags, and sponsorship to the Cannon Beach Art Association to help with mailing and other show fees.

1. Website Report: Carol Putnam encourages members to submit photos and an artist bio for the member gallery page.
2. Product Chair Report: Alice Debo discussed options for use of laser printers: can cut metal, plastic, wood, leather, paper. They can also be used to etch glass and stone.

Illustrated Letters project: Practice letters consensus was to have the plant wrapped around the letters. The finished product will be a journal, with each letter of the alphabet on a page, followed by several blank or lined pages. It was suggested that if lined pages are used, the lines be light grey so as not to interfere with drawing. Due dates: commit to participate by Nov 17; letters assigned early December 2018; Sept 1, 2019 scans are due; September 15, 2019 is the order and payment deadline. Watercolor and/or colored pencil only. White background. Letters can be colored, patterned, or outlined. Use a plant beginning with the letter, either common or Latin name.

3. 2019 Lan Su Exhibition Update: Alice Debo stated the submission deadline (high resolution scan of work) is June 1 if you want your work considered for marketing prior to the show. Deadline for application form, photos of submissions and payment is August 1. Fee is \$35 for first entry and \$5 for each additional piece. There will be strict size and framing guidelines. A detailed prospectus will be emailed.
4. Cannon Beach Art Association Exhibition Update: Dorota reported on this upcoming exhibit titled "From Forest to Garden". Prospectus is on the OBA website. All accepted work will be hung – there is no storage for additional work. They will re-arrange as work is sold and taken.
5. Workshops Report: Tina reports there are no workshops currently scheduled. We had a successful and well-attended Nature Journaling workshop at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. This is a venue we may want to pursue for future workshops. The easiest way to work with them is to go through the Friends of Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. We might consider trying to get some of our cards and prints into their gift shop.
6. Sketchbook Exchange Update: Marilyn will organize the next sketchbook exchange
7. Other Business and Date for next Bi-annual Meeting:
 - a. May 4, 2019 has been chosen as the date for our next bi-annual meeting.
 - b. Many requested that Aislinn present her talk and slide show on Oregon native plants as introduced to European gardens, and on women botanical artists.
 - c. Plant illustrations.org <http://plantillustrations.org/index.php?x=65&y=49&mobile=0> is a good website for a variety of historical illustrations of plants.
 - d. Ideas for sketchbook displays: Alice D: shop windows where display can be seen from both inside and outside; Janet: Justice Department windows, high traffic.

- e. We need to draft a list of criteria for exhibitions, such as security, humidity, sun exposure, traffic sales opportunities, duration, commission, venue that suits type of work, price range, etc.
- f. Alice Hill suggested Walters Art Center in Hillsboro as a possible exhibition venue. They charge a 30% commission. The Guild of Natural Science Illustrators had a show there.
- g. Dorota reports good sales at her Cannon Beach Art Association show: great success with sales of her 6x6 pieces and also sold 2 or 3 of her larger paintings.
- h. We need nominations for leadership succession. An email will be sent requesting nominations.
- i. Janene encourages members to join the OBA Facebook page

Botanical Letter Workshop:

Laura gave a great presentation on guidelines and suggestions for the illustrated letter.

For the remainder of the meeting members practiced creating botanical letters, using the skills learned from Laura, and the materials she brought.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

The date for our next bi-annual meeting will be May 4, 2019

See below for a selection of photos from this meeting and the Nature Journaling Workshop



Alice Debo explains the Illustrated Letter project, with Kate Blairstone



Watching Alice's presentation: Patty McMahan, Kip Nordstrom, Aislinn Adams, Janet Parker



Laura Shea presents her demonstration for the Illustrated Letter project



Examples: practice sketches for illustrated letters

